

Application No. 10/506541
Reply to Office Action of August 26, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A thermoplastic molding composition comprising
 - a) from 20 to 99% by weight of a thermoplastic polymer ~~other than a polyoxymethylene homo- or copolymer;~~ selected from the group consisting of polyolefin, modified polyolefin, polyacrylate, polymethacrylate, polymers produced via polymerization of esters and/or amides of acrylic or methacrylic acid, and also their copolymers, polyamide, polyester, polycarbonate, polyether, polythioether, polyphenylene oxide, polyarylene sulfides, and their mixtures
 - b) from 0.1 to 80% by weight of an additive selected from the group consisting of fillers, reinforcing materials, impact modifiers, and their mixtures, and
 - c) from 0.00001 to 1.0% by weight of a phosphane, sulfonium salt or a titanyl compound and/or 0.00001 to 0.03% by weight of a phosphonium salt or ammonium salt or their mixtures as a catalyst which catalyzes the formation of covalent bonds between the thermoplastic polymer and the surface of the additive.
2. (Currently amended) A long-fiber-reinforced thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1 further comprising
 - a) ~~from 20 to 90% by weight of a thermoplastic polymer other than a polyoxymethylene homo- or copolymer;~~
 - b) from 10 to 80% by weight of a reinforcing fiber;
 - c) ~~from 0.00001 to 0.5% by weight of at least one catalyst which catalyzes a chemical reaction between the thermoplastic matrix polymer and the surface of the reinforcing fiber.~~

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3. (Currently amended) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amount of component a) is from 20 to 99% by weight, that of component b) is from 0.1 to 80% by weight, and that of component c) is phosphane, sulfonium salt or a titanyl compound in an amount from 0.00001 to 0.5% by weight.
4. (Original) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein use is made of a catalyst or a mixture of catalysts which catalyzes transesterification, transamidation, or transurethanization reactions, or catalyzes the formation of ester groups, amide groups, and urethane groups.
5. (Currently amended) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst is a Lewis acid and is not a Brønsted acid.
6. (cancelled)
7. (Original) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein mineral fillers, reinforcing fibers, impact modifiers, or their mixtures are used as additive.
8. (cancelled)
9. (currently amended) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst is selected from the group consisting of ethyltriphenylphosphonium bromide, tetraphenylphosphonium bromide, tetrabutylphosphonium bromide, stearyl-tributylphosphonium bromide, triphenylphosphane, ~~n-butyl titanate~~, and their mixtures.
10. (Original) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 2, wherein the long-fiber-reinforced thermoplastic molding composition is a glass fiber bundle which

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has been sheathed by one or more layers of the thermoplastic matrix polymer, so that the fibers have been impregnated with the thermoplastic matrix polymer.

11. (Original) The thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 10, wherein the glass fiber bundle has been wetted by the thermoplastic polymer or by a blend of thermoplastic polymers, and the impregnated glass fiber bundle has been sheathed by another component, and the impregnated glass fiber bundle and the other component have been bonded to one another at the surface.
12. (Original) A molded article obtainable via shaping of a thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1.
- 13.- 15. (cancelled)
16. (Previously presented) The polyacetal molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst is a titanyl compounds of the structure $[Ml^{p+}]_s[TiO]^{2+}[A^r]_t$, wherein
p is 1 or 2,
s is 0, 1 or 2,
Ml is a mono- or divalent metal,
A is an r-valent anion,
r and t, independently of one another, are 1 or 2, and
 $s \cdot p + 2$ is equal to $r \cdot t$.
17. (Previously presented) The polyacetal molding composition as claimed in claim 16, wherein

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Ml is an alkali metal,

A is an acetic acid or oxalic acid,

p=1,

s=0 or 2,

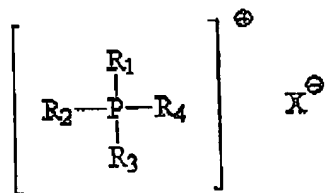
r=1 or 2, and

t=2.

18. (Previously presented) The polyacetal molding composition as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the catalyst is

phosphonium salts which are compounds of the formula II



II

where R₁, R₂, R₃, and R₄ are identical or different, and are monovalent organic radicals,

X is be a halogen atom, and/or an -OR or -R group, where R is alkyl or aryl.

19. (Previously presented) The polyacetal molding composition as claimed in claim 18,

wherein

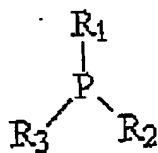
R₁ to R₄ are identical or different and have from 2 to 10 carbon atoms and at least one of the radicals R₁ to R₄, is an aryl radical.

20. (Previously presented) The polyacetal molding composition as claimed in claim 1,

wherein the catalyst is

phosphanes of the formula IIa

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IIa

where the radicals R_1 to R_3 are identical or different, and are monovalent organic radicals.

21. (New) A thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thermoplastic polymer is a polyester.
22. (New) A thermoplastic molding composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the amount of component c) is 0.0001 to 0.03 % by weight of a catalyst selected from the group consisting of phosphonium salt, phosphane, sulfonium salt, ammonium salt or their mixtures.